

William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital
VA IACUC Policy #16-13

Per Diems

Policy: Investigators housing animals at the Animal Research Facility (ARF) will be charged a standard per diem, based mainly on the species and type of caging needed. Per diem rates are updated annually, and increases in the range of 4–5% can usually be expected. The rates are based on actual cost of supplies (such as feed and bedding), on actual cost and amount of labor that goes into animal care (such as cage changing, bottle filling, washing equipment, on cost of implementing the sentinel health surveillance program and performing daily health checks), and on the corresponding rates at the University of Wisconsin.

The rates listed below are included in this policy only as an example of the existing per diems. Future updates will be issued directly by the VA Research Office. They will not be reprinted in this policy, except when the policy undergoes triennial review and updating.

In addition to the daily rates charged for certain species and cage types, there are additional charges for special services that require extra time, care, or equipment. What these special charges should include and to which investigators they will be assessed will be decided by the Research Office on a case-by case basis. Some examples of unusual circumstances that warrant such special charges are the preparation and feeding of special diets and of rooms requiring sterile equipment such as autoclaved cages.

Sample Illustrating Standard Per Diems and Special Service Charges	
Type of Charge	Cost (per animal/day)
Standard per diems	
Mice – single & multi-housing (ARF & SARF)	\$0.270/day
Mice – single-housing, measured pelleted feed (SARF)	\$0.280/day
Mice – single-housing, Diets A & C (SARF)	\$0.410/day
Mice – autoclaved cages: single-multi-housing	\$0.310/day
Rats – multi-housing	\$0.350/day
Rats – single-housing	\$0.400/day
Rats – metabolic caging	\$0.840/day
Rats – autoclaved cages: single housing	\$0.470/day
Rats – autoclaved cages: multiple housing	\$0.390/day

Questions: Any questions on this policy should be directed to the A.O. (280-7222).

Effective date: The policy was approved at the IACUC meeting on 11/27/01. The revised policy was re-approved at the ARC meeting on 7/11/05, 9/08/2008, 7/13/2009, 9/13/2010, 5/02/2011, 7/11/12 & 11/06/13.